CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

ORDER NO. 92-081

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR:

VENTURE CORPORATION
PORT SONOMA-MARIN
SEDIMENT HANDLING AND DISPOSAL
MARIN COUNTY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region, finds that:

1. The Venture Corporation (hereinafter the Discharger) submitted a Report of Waste Discharge, dated May 19, 1992, for a discharge from its sediment handling and disposal facility. The facilities are located at Port Sonoma-Marin on property owned by the Venture Corporation.

2. These Waste Discharge Requirements supersede Order No. 78-10, dated February 21, 1978, and subsequent Amendments, Resolution 89-129, dated July 19, 1989. The prior amended Requirements are neither adequate nor consistent with the plans and policies of the Regional Board because they were issued to the former owner, Shellmaker Inc., were for marina maintenance dredging; thus, they did not specifically address the operation of a long-term sediment handling facility.

3. The discharger is located immediately south of Highway 37 on the eastern bank of the Petaluma River. The sediment drying and disposal facility consists of two ponds, six and 10 acres in size.

4. Discharge of effluent (i.e., supernatant, decant water or return-flow water) takes place at two weirs (Attachment B). The facility is designed to discharge an average of 325,000 gallons per day of effluent. The design flow for the facility is 1.3 million gallons per day.

5. The discharger handles sediments which are non-hazardous but have been found to be unacceptable for unconfined aquatic disposal.

6. Sediment is brought to the facility from dredging locations throughout the Bay.

7. Sediments are tested prior to dredging and transport. No sediments will be accepted which are a hazardous waste by California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Criteria.

8. The discharger anticipates a much lower effluent discharge rate for sediment brought onsite because that sediment is lower in water content and is unloaded using a clamshell. Sediment resulting from the discharger's marina will be pumped hydraulically to the ponds and will have a higher water content. Additionally the discharger is located in an area that is subject to high evaporation rates.

9. These requirements are for the discharge of effluent from dredge material handling and disposal operations. The discharger is a drying/rehandling facility for sediments dredged elsewhere in the Bay and destined for upland disposal.

10. These requirements also address placement of sediment resulting from routine maintenance dredging at the discharger's marina. The discharger dredges approximately 45,000 cubic yards per year from the marina. Marina sediments have been placed in the drying ponds under prior Requirements.

11. The discharger is considering a one-year pilot study to determine if typical maintenance dredging of the marina could be reduced or eliminated through use of agitation dredging at the mouth of the marina. The agitation dredging would result in a periodic resuspension of the sediment by the use of an eight-foot wide hydraulic rototiller which would be placed one foot above the mud line. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have issued a permit with special conditions for this project and the discharger is currently seeking funding for the project from the Corps of Engineers' Long Term Management Strategy (LTMS) program. The implementation of permanent agitation dredging will require Water Quality Certification.

12. The discharger is located at the mouth of the Petaluma River on San Pablo Bay.

13. The beneficial uses of the San Pablo Bay are:

    a. Water contact recreation.
    b. Non-contact water recreation
    c. Warm and cold water habitat
    d. Wildlife habitat
    e. Marine habitat
    f. Preservation of rare and endangered species
    g. Fish Migration and spawning
    h. Navigation
    i. Preservation of Rare and endangered species
    j. Fish Spawning
    k. Estuarine Habitat

14. The Board, on December 17, 1986, adopted a revised Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) which contains water quality objectives for San Pablo Bay. The requirements of this document are consistent with that Plan.

15. The action to adopt waste discharge requirements for this facility is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), in accordance with Section 15304, Title 14, California Administrative Code.

16. The Board has notified the Discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe waste discharge requirements for this discharge.

17. The Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all the comments pertaining to the discharge.

18. IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Venture Corporation, Port Sonoma-Marin, in order to meet the provisions contained in Division 7 of the California Water Code and regulations adopted thereunder, shall comply with the following:

A. Discharge Prohibitions:

1. The direct discharge of wastes (including dredged sediment material) to surface waters or surface water drainage courses is prohibited.

2. The discharge shall not cause degradation of any water supply.

3. The discharge shall remain within the designated disposal area at all times.

4. The dredge and disposal shall not cause a nuisance as defined in Section 13050(m) of the California Water Code.

B. Specifications

1. At no point within a containment area or cell shall the elevation of sediment exceed that of the levees, berms or other containment structures.

C. Effluent Limitations

Wastewater (decant water, return water) discharged from the ponds at the previously described weirs shall not exceed the following limits of quality at any time:

(i) pH:	6.5 - 8.5
(ii) Settleable matter:	1.0 ml/hr
(iii) Dissolved sulfide:	0.1 mg/l

C. Receiving Water Limitations

1. The dredging and/or disposal of waste (i.e., sediments) shall not cause:

a. Floating, suspended or deposited macroscopic particulate matter or foam in waters of the State at any place more than 100 feet from the dredge or point of discharge of the return flow.

b. Bottom deposits or aquatic growth in waters of the State at any place.

c. Alteration of apparent color beyond present natural background levels in waters of the State at any place more than 100 feet from the dredge or point of discharge of the return flow.

d. Visible floating, suspended, or deposited oil or other products of petroleum origin in waters of the State at any place.

e. Waters of the State to exceed the following quality limits at any point:

Dissolved Oxygen	5.0 mg/l minimum When natural factors cause lesser concentrations, then this discharge shall not cause further reduction in the concentration of dissolved oxygen.
Dissolved Sulfide	0.1 mg/l maximum.
pH	A variation of natural ambient pH by more than 0.2 pH units.
Toxic or other deleterious substances	None shall be present in concentrations or quantities which may cause deleterious effects on aquatic biota, wildlife or waterfowl, or which render any of these unfit for human consumption either at levels created in the receiving waters or as a result of biological concentrations.

2. Turbidity of the waters of the State at any point beyond the 100 feet of the discharge of the return flow shall not increase above background levels by more than the following:

Receiving Waters Background	Incremental Increase
<50 units	5 Units, maximum
50-100 units	10 units, maximum

>100 units	10% of background, maximum

C. The groundwater shall not be degraded as a result of the sediment disposal and handling operation.

D. PROVISIONS

1. The discharge of silt, sand, soil, clay or other earthen materials from dredging, construction or any other on-shore operation in quantities sufficient to cause deleterious bottom deposits or turbidity or discoloration in excess of natural background levels in surface waters is prohibited.

2. Dredging operations shall cease immediately whenever violations of requirements are detected through implementation of the Self-Monitoring Program (SMP) and operations shall not resume until alternative methods of compliance are provided. The discharger shall notify the Regional Board immediately whenever violations are detected and operations shall not resume until the Executive Officer of the Regional Board staff has approved the corrective action plan that will provide alternative methods of compliance.

3. The discharger shall file with the Regional Board monthly self-monitoring reports performed according to the attached Self-Monitoring Program issued by the Executive Officer or any subsequent revision.

4. All reports pursuant to these Provisions shall be prepared under the supervision of a registered civil engineer or certified engineering geologist.

5. The discharger shall ensure that the foundation of the site, the levees surrounding the site, and the structures which control leachate, decant water, or surface drainage, are designed, constructed and maintained to withstand conditions generated during the maximum probable earthquake.

6. The discharger shall install any additional leachate monitoring devices required to fulfill the terms of any Self-Monitoring Program issued to the discharger in order that the Board may evaluate compliance with the conditions of this order.

7. The discharge of any hazardous, designated or non-hazardous waste as defined in Title 23, Division 3, Chapter 15 of the California Administrative Code, to the disposal site is prohibited. Only dredged material that has been demonstrated to be non-hazardous may be discharged to the disposal site.

8. The Discharger shall remove and relocate any wastes which are discharged at this site in violation of these requirements.

9. The discharger shall file with this Board a report of any material change or

proposed change in the character, location, or quantity of this waste discharge. For the purpose of these requirements, this includes any proposed change in the boundaries of the disposal areas or the ownership of the site.

10. The discharger shall maintain a copy of this Order at the site so as to be available at all times to site operating personnel.

11. The property owner and site operator is considered to have full responsibility for correcting any and all problems which arise in the event of a failure which results in an unauthorized release of waste or wastewater.

12. The discharger shall maintain all devices or designed features installed in accordance with this Order such that they function without interruption for the life of the operation.

13. The ultimate off-site disposal of the dried dredge material is subject to the approval of the Executive Officer. This approval shall be based upon a demonstration that the ultimate disposal will occur at a site which has Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) from this Regional Board or a site that has received a waiver of WDR's.

14. The Discharger shall permit the Regional Board or its authorized representative, upon presentation of identification:

    a. Entry on to the premises on which wastes are located or in which records are kept.

    b. Access to copy any records required to be kept under the terms and conditions of this Order.

    c. Inspection of any treatment equipment, monitoring equipment or monitoring method required by this Order.

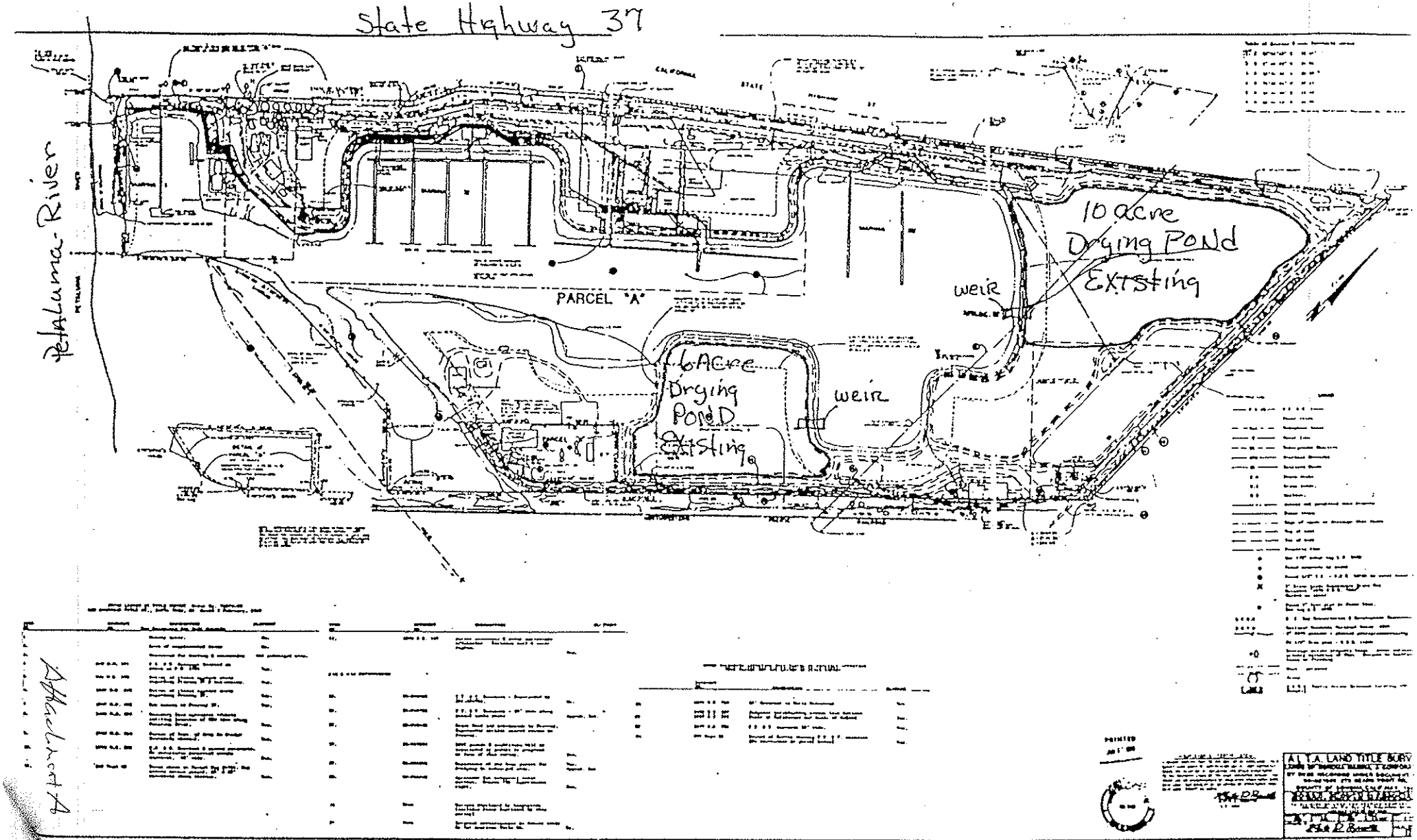
    d. Sampling of any discharge or surface water covered by this Order.

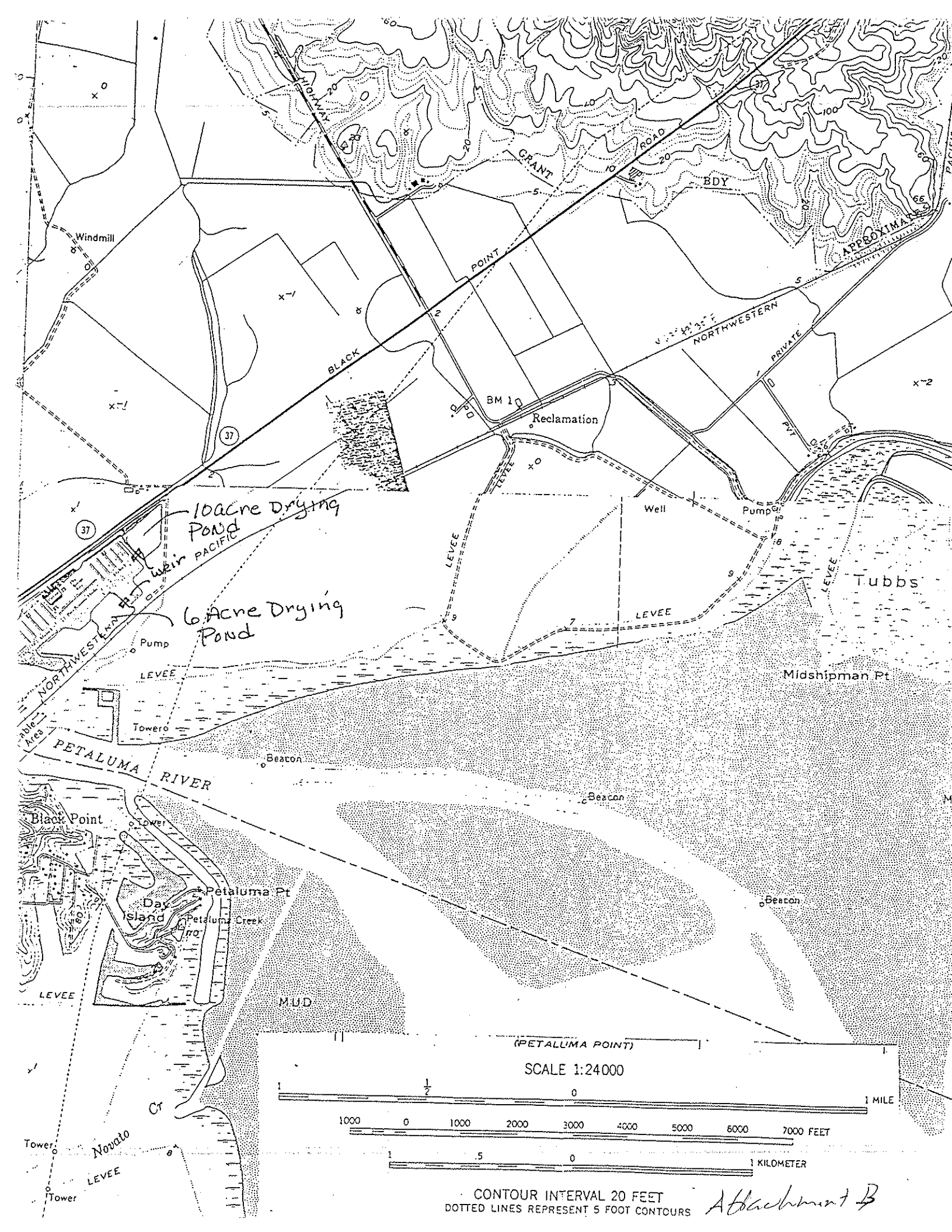
15. This Order does not remove liability under federal, state or local laws, regulations or rules of other programs and agencies nor does this Order authorize the discharge of wastes without appropriate permits from other agencies or organizations.

I, Steven R. Ritchie, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, complete and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region, on July 15, 1992.

STEVEN R. RITCHIE
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Attachments: A: Site Map
B: Site Map
C: Self Monitoring Program (SMP)


State Highway 37
Petaluma River
PARCEL "A"
10 acre
Drying POND
EXTSting
weir
6Acre
Drying
POND
Existing
weir
Attachment A


HIGHWAY
GRANT
ROAD
BDY
APPROXIMATE
POINT
BLACK
Windmill
NORTHWESTERN
PRIVATE
PVT
BM 1
Reclamation
10 Acre Drying Pond
weir
PACIFIC
6 Acre Drying Pond
Well
Pump
LEVEE
Tubbs
Midshipman Pt
Pump
NORTHWESTERN
LEVEE
Towero
PETALUMA RIVER
Beacon
Beacon
Beacon
Black Point
Tower
Petaluma Pt
Day Island
Petaluma Creek
LEVEE
MUD
(PETALUMA POINT)
SCALE 1:24000
1 MILE
7000 FEET
1 KILOMETER
Tower
Novato
LEVEE
Tower
CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
DOTTED LINES REPRESENT 5 FOOT CONTOURS
Attachment B

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

SELF-MONITORING PROGRAM

FOR

VENTURE CORPORATION
PORT SONOMA-MARIN
SEDIMENT HANDLING
AND
DISPOSAL

Part A

Refer to applicable sections of Part A.

Delete Sections:
D.l.a., D.2.a., D.2.d., D.2.e., D.2.g., D.2.h., D.3., E.4., F.3., F.4. F. 5., G.5.

Insert Sections:
D.2.a.Samples of effluent and receiving waters shall be collected at times coincident with influent sampling unless otherwise stipulated. The Regional Board or Executive Officer may approve an alternative sampling plan if it is demonstrated that expected operating conditions warrant a deviation from the standard sampling plan.

D.2.d.If analytical results are received showing any instantaneous maximum limit is exceeded, a confirmation sample shall be taken within 24 hours and results known within 24 hours of the sampling.

D.2.e.If any instantaneous maximum limit for a constituent is exceeded in the confirmation sample described in Section D.2.d., the discharge shall be terminated until the cause of the violation is found and corrected. For other violations, the discharger shall implement procedures that are acceptable to the Executive Officer on a case by case basis.

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

SELF-MONITORING PROGRAM

FOR

VENTURE CORPORATION
PORT SONOMA-MARIN
SEDIMENT HANDLING
AND
DISPOSAL FACILITY

Part B

This portion of the Self Monitoring Program (SMP) contains terms and definitions specific to the permitted discharge.

I. DESCRIPTION OF SAMPLING STATIONS

A. RECEIVING WATERS (Return Flow)

A1. Pond 1: Located at the point of discharge to the receiving water.

A2. Pond 2: Located at the point of discharge to the receiving water.

B1. Located within 200 feet of the point of discharge to the receiving water (marina).

XXU. Upstream/ Background: Located upstream of the discharge to the receiving water. Sample to be taken at mid-depth of water column.

II. LAND OBSERVATIONS

L1-L20 Visual observations at points equidistant along the perimeter levee not to exceed 1,000 feet spacing.

III. SCHEDULE OF SAMPLING, ANALYSIS AND OBSERVATIONS

A. The following table is to be implemented as a principle part of the SMP and is written specifically for the discharge described in this permit.

Parameter	Stations A.	Stations B.	Stations L.
Type of Sample	Grab	Grab	Observations
Settleable Matter (ml/1-hr)	Daily	Weekly/ per Episode	
pH	Daily	Weekly/ per Episode	
Dissolved Sulfide (mg/l)	Daily	Weekly/ per Episode*	
Dissolved Oxygen (mg/l)	—	Weekly/ per Episode	
Temperature (°C)		Weekly/ per Episode	
Turbidity (JTU)		Weekly/ per Episode	
Standard Observations			Weekly/ per Episode
Bioassay (96-hr)	Bimonthly**	—	
Metals	Weekly/ per Episode	--	

* To be performed if D.O. drops below 5.0 mg/l at Station A.

** Test to be carried out using standard ASTM protocol for Pacific Oyster (Crassostea gigas) larvae or other method as approved by the Executive Officer.

I, Steven R. Ritchie, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing Self-Monitoring Program:

1. Has been developed in accordance with the procedures set forth in this Regional Board's Resolution No. 73-16 in order to obtain data and document compliance with waste discharge requirements established in Regional Board Order No. 92-081.

2. Was adopted by the Board on July 15, 1992.

3. May be reviewed at any time subsequent to the effective date upon written notice from the Executive Officer or request from the discharger, and revisions will be ordered by Executive Officer or Regional Board.

Steven R. Ritchie
Executive Officer